



2009 "VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH INVASIVES" GRANTS REPORT FORM

Display Report

PROJECT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Project Title:	FY 2009 Invasive Species Management With Volunteers	
Region: Use region number ONLY	1	
Station:	Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex	
Contact Person: Name and Phone Number	Jim Houk 541-757-7236	
Project Description: (Up to 250 words)	Volunteers worked with staff to map and control invasive species within the Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex refuges (William L. Finley, Ankeny, and Baskett Slough). Volunteers also helped with restoration efforts by planting native species. We had a total of 184 dedicated people help in 14 events. We surveyed a total of 369 acres and treated 156 acres of that area where we found weed infestations.	
List of Invasives Species Targeted:	Common Name	Scientific Name
	Armenian Blackberry	<i>Rubus armeniacus</i>
	English Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>
	Japanese Knotweed	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>
	Meadow Knapweed	<i>Centaurea debeauxii</i>
	Periwinkle	<i>Vinca major</i>
	Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
	Scotch Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
	Tansy Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
	Yellow Flag Iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>
Project Status:	InProgress	
Project Completion Date or Estimated Completion Date: (mm/dd/yyyy)	09/30/2009	

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Volunteer Affiliation:	VA_FriendsGrp VA_Scouts VA_SchoolGrp VA_StudentConsAssoc
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(Check all that apply)	VA_CivicOrg VA_Other
Volunteer Involvement: Describe the type of work the volunteers performed. (Up to 150 words)	Our volunteers searched for weeds to map and helped identify new infestations. They spent considerable time and effort pulling and cutting weeds to improve wildlife habitat. The volunteers also planted native vegetation and removed an old fence which was covered with undesirable plants. Some of our volunteers helped with coordinating events or provided support where ever it was needed.
Total Number of Volunteers:	184
Total Number of Volunteer Hours:	671
Partnerships: List both new and existing partnerships utilized in this project. (Up to 150 words).	The Willamette Valley NWRC partnered with the Friends of the Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuges and the Audubon Society of Corvallis to coordinate and fulfill volunteer opportunities on our refuges. Our Friends group was particularly instrumental in support of the work parties by taking care of advertising and providing refreshments. The Audubon Society of Corvallis provided skilled leadership and volunteers to ensure success of the restoration projects. The partnerships we formed supported the mission goals of each of our organizations and improved our local community.

PROJECT RESULTS

Project Results: Give an overview of the results of the project. Include quantifiable measure of success, such as maps produced, efficacy of control measures, number of sites where invasions were detected early and responded to, number of community contacts, etc. (Up to 250 words).	Mapping the targeted weed species helped us determine the scope of each specific infestation. This was very helpful in deciding which methods to use for control. The control measures we implemented also differed depending upon the individual weed species we targeted, and most proved quite successful. A combination of manual labor, mechanical removal, biological control and chemical application gave us good results. Armenian Blackberry was mowed and followed up with herbicide. English Ivy, Japanese Knotweed, Periwinkle, Purple Loosestrife, and Yellow Flag Iris were first pulled or cut by hand, and then followed up with herbicide. Tansy Ragwort and Scotch Broom were removed just by pulling plants manually. Meadow Knapweed was removed through herbicide application. Bio-control agents were applied to some Purple Loosestrife and Tansy Ragwort plants to aid their control. The methods we used in eradicating the present plants were generally quite successful. Return visits to focus sites after control methods were used resulted in few targeted weeds being observed. Additional infestations may continue to be a concern, though, because site conditions, such as proximity to a road, flooding, or animal movement, are difficult to control. Volunteer involvement is therefore very important to the early detection of new infestations. During 2009, we enlisted the help of 184 volunteers who gave 671 hours of their time. We mapped 369 acres on three refuges. 156 acres were treated and 10 acres were restored to native habitat. These efforts resulted in the improvement of many acres of wildlife habitat within the Complex.
Number of Acres Treated:	156
Number of Acres Inventoried and/or Mapped:	369
Number of Acres Restored:	10

BUDGET INFORMATION

Budget: Account for funds in broad categories such as equipment, volunteer stipends, travel, coordinator salary/contract, etc.

Total Grant Amount:	\$ \$15,360.00
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Breakdown of Expenditures:

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Category	Total \$ Spent	% of Total Grant
Equipment / Supplies	\$ 334.64	2.2
Chemical	\$898.50	5.8
Biocontrol Agents	\$0.00	0
Travel	361.50	2.4
Volunteer Stipends	\$0.00	0
Volunteer Coordinator Salary/Contract	\$10,523.31	68.5
Restoration Materials	\$2,975.00	19.4
Other	\$0.00	0
TOTAL	\$15,092.95	98.3

<p>Recommendations: (OPTIONAL) How useful was this program for meeting refuge invasive species objectives and how can it be improved?</p>	<p>This program was very useful in helping to manage the invasive species issues on our refuges. Without volunteer involvement, much of the work done would not be accomplished. A web site dedicated to this specific program would be very helpful to have for volunteers and staff to visit. Events could be announced and volunteers could sign up for opportunities on a web site. Also, invasive species information could be linked under a resources section. Driving directions to meeting places and contact information could be available more easily.</p>
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